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NAKASEC, KRC, KRCC, and SAALT Denounces ICE Raids

AAPIs Join the Fight to Demand an End to Deportations Targeting Central American Families
#StopTheRaids #KnowYourPower

WASHINGTON DC— National Korean American Service and Education Consortium (NAKASEC), Korean American Resource & Cultural Center (KRCC), Korean Resource Center (KRC), and South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT) join the call of refugee and immigrant rights organizations, families, and community members across the country in condemning raids by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) targeting Central American children and families who came seeking protection from life-threatening violence in their home countries.

ICE's decision to target asylum seeking children and families is a grave mistake that only instills fear in ALL our communities. NAKASEC, KRC, KRCC, and SAALT encourage AAPI partners to show support for these Central American families by signing an AAPI Solidarity Sign On Letter condemning the unjust raids. Visit the following link to sign on to the letter: LINK

NAKASEC Executive Director Dae Joong Yoon, KRCC Executive Director Inhe Choi, and **KRC Interim Executive Director Jenny Seon** released the following statement denouncing the ICE raids:
"We are appalled that while over 5 million immigrant students and parents fight for the implementation of the DAPA and expanded DACA programs, the Obama administration decides to move forward on widely condemned raids targeting another group of vulnerable children and families. Many communities are victims of war and poverty, so protecting refugees and asylum seekers is a key priority for all of us including the Korean American community and Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Looking at our shared history, we are all refugees and immigrants. These Central American children and parents are a part of our family. America is and we are better than this."

SAALT Director of National Policy and Advocacy, Lakshmi Sridaran, said: "It is a dangerous and disturbing trend to deport and refuse refugees and asylum seekers who are fleeing violence. Our immigration priorities should be focused on implementing the expanded DACA and DAPA programs and passing common sense immigration reform legislation, not on enforcement measures that criminalize children and families. We know that the conditions of the ICE family residential centers where many of these families will be sent are often deplorable. All immigrants deserve to be treated with fairness and dignity and raids over a holiday weekend are unacceptable."

NAKASEC, KRC, and KRCC joined the efforts of faith, refugee, and immigrant rights organizations across the country:

- On January 5th, KRC joined Los Angeles partners condemning the raids on the one-year anniversary of the historic driver's license law in California.
- On January 5th, KRCC also strongly spoke out against the raids with Chicago partners and educated immigrants about their basic rights if immigration enforcement comes to their home.
- On January 8th, NAKASEC's Virginia office joined partner organizations for a press conference denouncing the raids and announcing their upcoming Know Your Rights training.

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For NAKASEC photos and video, please follow us on Facebook (link) and Twitter (@nakasec)

The National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC) was founded in 1994 by local community centers to project a progressive voice and promote the full participation of Korean Americans on major social justice issues. NAKASEC maintains offices in Annandale, Virginia and Los Angeles, California. NAKASEC has affiliates in Chicago (Korean American Resource & Cultural Center) and Los Angeles and Orange County (Korean Resource Center).